



## Gateway



### ***BRIEF OVERVIEW for COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS***

**May 2003**

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#### **The CHDP Program**

The CHDP program provides no-cost preventive health screenings to children under 19 years of age with family income  $\leq$  200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (\$36,800 for a family of four). In San Diego County, it is estimated that 88,000 children are uninsured and that 2/3 are eligible for Healthy Families or Medi-Cal. Many of these children receive CHDP services.

Through CHDP, children and youth receive, at no cost, periodic preventive health screenings that include: a health and developmental history; physical examination; nutritional, vision, dental and hearing assessments; immunizations and laboratory tests; appropriate health education; and when necessary, referral to further diagnosis and treatment.

#### **Establishment of the CHDP Gateway Program**

To ensure more children get comprehensive health coverage through Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, the Department of Health Services (DHS) has developed an electronic "gateway" at CHDP provider offices and clinics that will link children with temporary Medi-Cal coverage. The CHDP Gateway program, scheduled for implementation on July 1, 2003, has these important features:

- An electronic screening and enrollment process; and
- A "pre-enrollment" process into immediately available temporary Medi-Cal coverage for up to 60 days for all eligible children.
- The opportunity to enroll in Healthy Families and Medi-Cal through the joint Healthy Families/Medi-Cal application

#### **Brief Overview of the Gateway Program Electronic Screening and Pre -Enrollment Process**

Children seeking CHDP services will be electronically screened for eligibility and, if eligible, will receive CHDP services and leave the provider's office with temporary Medi-Cal health insurance coverage for a full scope of benefits.

- **CHDP Providers use new electronic screening application.** Children will be screened for CHDP eligibility using a new electronic application either through the Internet or a Point-of-Service (POS) device at the CHDP provider office or clinic. The electronic application is based on the information provided by the parent or guardian on the pre-enrollment application (DHS 4073).
- **Family has option to apply for continuing insurance coverage.** Also included on the Pre-enrollment Application is the question as to whether or not the family wishes to apply for continuing Medi-Cal/Healthy Families coverage for their child.
- **The Gateway checks for child's existing Medi-Cal/Healthy Families eligibility status.** Information from the DHS 4073 application is entered electronically. The Gateway process will check to determine if a child is already covered by Medi-Cal or Healthy Families. If not, the Gateway process will determine "pre-enrollment" eligibility for temporary Medi-Cal coverage.
- **Child Pre-enrolled into temporary full-scope Medi-Cal coverage.** If MEDS has no record for the child, the Gateway will enroll the child into *temporary* Medi-Cal coverage for up to 60 days (the remainder of the current month and the entire month following). This is known as "pre-enrollment".
- **Family submits a full application for continuing insurance coverage.** If a family requests to apply for continuing Medi-Cal or Healthy Families (beyond the 60-day temporary period), DHS will mail the family a joint Medi-Cal/Healthy Families application. The application must be submitted *before the end* of the temporary Medi-Cal coverage period.
- **Child enrolled into continuing coverage only if full application is completed and eligibility is determined.** Once the application is received by state Single Point of Entry (SPE), the child's temporary coverage will *continue* until the eligibility for Healthy Families or Medi-Cal is determined. If no application is received by the SPE, the child will lose Medi-Cal coverage when the temporary period ends.

## What Happens to the Child After the Temporary Coverage Expires

**Children who apply and are found eligible for continuing Medi-Cal or Healthy Families** will receive continuing coverage *after* the temporary coverage period. Only those families that receive, complete and submit the additional full application will be considered for continuing Medi-Cal/Healthy Families eligibility.

**Children who are found ineligible for both Medi-Cal and Healthy Families** will lose full-scope Medi-Cal services once eligibility is determined or when temporary coverage expires at the end of the month following the CHDP screening.

**Children who elect *not* to apply for continuing Medi-Cal or Healthy Families coverage** are still eligible for the temporary Gateway coverage and scheduled CHDP health assessment visits thereafter. These children can *continue* to use CHDP providers for visits *after* the temporary coverage expires according to the periodicity visit schedule for their age. Children must go through the Gateway eligibility pre-enrollment application process for *each* health assessment visit. Children repeating the pre-enrollment application process may be eligible for *additional* 60-day periods of temporary full-scope Medi-Cal coverage if they have not submitted an application for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families and been denied continued coverage by one of these programs.

## Additional Information about the CHDP Gateway

- **Local Trainings for Community Organizations.** The County of San Diego CHDP Program has scheduled trainings in the month of June for community organizations working with children and families impacted by the CHDP Gateway. For more information, please call **619-692-8808**.
- **CHDP Provider Trainings.** The Department of Health Services will hold trainings in June to instruct CHDP providers and their staff on how to use the Internet and POS pre-enrollment application process. In addition, a new CHDP Provider Manual will be issued by June 30, 2003. More information about training schedules and provider support is available at [http://www.medi-cal.ca.gov/new\\_CHDP.asp](http://www.medi-cal.ca.gov/new_CHDP.asp)
- **Additional information about the Gateway.** Information about the Gateway can be accessed on the following internet sites:
  - The Department of Health Services website contains Frequently Asked Questions about the CHDP Gateway: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/pcfh/cms/chdp/chdpgateway.htm>
  - The 100% Campaign website contains a comprehensive CHDP Gateway Fact Sheet: <http://www.100percentcampaign.org/publications/chdp-gateway-030416.htm>



# CHDP

## Gateway



### Frequently Asked Questions about the CHDP Gateway for Community Organizations

**Can a family elect *not* to go through the electronic pre-enrollment process and *still* receive CHDP services?** **No** Beginning October 1, 2003, it will *only* be possible to use CHDP services by first being automatically pre-enrolled through the CHDP Gateway process. *Note – From July 1 to September 30, 2003 providers will have time to transition from the paper eligibility form to the electronic application.*

**Can a family elect *not* to go through the electronic screening process and *still* receive temporary Medi-Cal?** **No** It will *only* be possible to receive the temporary Medi-Cal coverage by first being automatically pre-enrolled through the electronic CHDP Gateway, and if found eligible, receive up to 60 days of full-scope Medi-Cal through the pre-enrollment process.

**Does a family have to apply for continuing Medi-Cal or Healthy Families coverage?** **No** A family may elect *not* to receive a joint application (or elect to receive the application but not fill it out) for continuing Medi-Cal or Healthy Families and *still* receive the temporary full-scope Medi-Cal and CHDP services according to the health assessment schedule for a child's age. There is no penalty for not applying for continuous coverage.

**Where can a family request and receive help completing and submitting the application?** Families can contact the San Diego Kids Health Assurance Network (SD-KHAN) at 1-800-675-227 to request help in English, Spanish or Vietnamese.

**Will the Gateway protect a family's confidentiality?** **Yes** As with other health programs, the CHDP Gateway program is required to meet federal privacy requirements as defined in the HIPAA Act of 1997. Family and personal information provided for the CHDP Gateway screening will remain confidential and is not shared with other agencies such as the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

**Should a family be concerned that participating in the Gateway will make them a "public charge" or affect their ability to adjust their immigration status?** **No** Using CHDP or temporary Medi-Cal insurance cannot prevent someone from getting a green card by making a person a "public charge" or prevent someone from becoming a U.S. citizen. Immigration and Naturalization Service guidance states that use of health services (other than long-term care) cannot cause a person to be considered a public charge.

**Will families be charged for temporary Medi-Cal if they are later found ineligible for continuing coverage?** **No** Families will not be charged for services if they are found ineligible for continuing coverage or choose not to apply.

**Is there any other way a child can get temporary Medi-Cal benefits?** **Yes** Children can get "accelerated enrollment" into Medi-Cal by completing the joint application and sending it for processing it to the Single Point of Entry (SPE). If the SPE screens the child as potentially eligible for Medi-Cal, he/she gets "accelerated enrollment" into temporary no cost full-scope benefits while the county makes a final Medi-Cal eligibility determination.

**Can children receive *more than one* period of temporary Medi-Cal full-scope benefits?** **Yes** Children repeating the CHDP Gateway pre-enrollment application process may be eligible for additional 60-day periods of temporary full-scope Medi-Cal coverage if they have not submitted an application for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families and been denied eligibility for both programs.